



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

P.O. Box 528804 · Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804

(405) 522-6190 · FAX (405) 528-2296 · www.nass.usda.gov/ok

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Weekly Summary for Apr 16-Apr 22

Issued April 23, 2012

Crops Continued to Thrive

Most of the week was clear with average highs in the low 70s. Small grains and canola continued to thrive amid spring temperatures and replenished soil moisture from the previous week's rain. Heading of wheat and rye was nearing completion, and over a third of the canola crop was reported as mature. Some wheat has been cut for hay, as have other forages and over a third of alfalfa acres. Planting of sorghum, soybeans and peanuts began, and corn emerged was ahead of normal. Most of northwestern Oklahoma was without significant rainfall last week and the average rainfall for the state was only 0.2 of an inch. The highest rainfall totals fell in central and eastern Oklahoma. One storm system brought hail across Caddo, Grady and McClain counties on Thursday. Subsoil moisture condition ratings continued to show improvement: 64 percent was rated adequate to surplus. Topsoil moisture conditions continued to have 83 percent ranked adequate or better. There were 5.0 days suitable for field work.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, April 22, 2012

Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	3	63
Short	14	14	20
Adequate	75	71	16
Surplus	8	12	1
Subsoil			
Very Short	8	11	63
Short	28	29	24
Adequate	60	55	12
Surplus	4	5	1

Small Grains: Conditions continued to be rated mostly good for all small grains and canola; three-quarters or more of each crop was rated good to excellent. Progress continued to outpace the five-year average with soft dough development observed in wheat and rye. **Wheat** heading was 89 percent complete by the end of the week, 30 points ahead of last year and 51 points ahead of the five-year average. Fifteen percent of the crop had reached the soft dough stage of development. The **canola** crop was 36 percent mature by Sunday, 14 points ahead of the previous year's crop. **Rye** heading was 94 percent complete, and 15 percent was in the soft dough stage by the end of the week. **Oat** jointing was 80 percent complete and 32 percent was headed by Sunday, 24 points ahead of normal.

Row Crops: Field activities for row crops picked up after the heavy rains from the week prior. Planting began for sorghum, soybeans and peanuts in limited areas. **Corn** planting reached 62 percent complete by the end of the week, and 29 percent had emerged, 16 points ahead of last year and 10 points ahead of normal. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 67 percent complete, and six percent was planted by Sunday. Preparation of **soybean** seedbeds was 50 percent complete by week's end, with five percent planted, on track with the five-year average. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was 62 percent complete, slightly behind normal, and five percent of the crop was planted. **Cotton** seedbed preparation reached 80 percent complete.

Watermelon planting was 47 percent complete by the end of the week, 30 points ahead of the five-year average.

Hay: Conditions for both alfalfa and other hay were rated mostly good. A first cutting of **alfalfa** hay was 36 percent complete by the end of the week; a first cutting of **other hay** was 18 percent complete.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range conditions continued improve with 47 percent rated good. Forage availability continued to improve with recent rainfall, and livestock pond levels have also improved. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$160 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$144 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 22, 2012

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	3	19	53	24
Canola	1	4	20	52	23
Rye	1	3	14	51	31
Oats	1	2	16	56	25
Alfalfa Hay	1	4	27	53	15
Other Hay	1	4	29	51	15
Livestock	1	8	26	53	12
Pasture and Range	3	9	31	47	10

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 22, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Headed	89	72	59	38
	Soft Dough	15	N/A	N/A	N/A
Canola	Mature	36	9	22	N/A
Rye	Headed	94	91	86	62
	Soft Dough	15	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oats	Jointing	80	66	55	61
	Headed	32	12	5	8
Corn	Planted	62	52	64	51
	Emerged	29	19	13	19
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	67	65	58	49
	Planted	6	N/A	N/A	5
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	50	40	47	47
	Planted	5	N/A	5	5
Peanuts	Seedbed Prepared	62	52	74	68
	Planted	5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	80	78	60	70
Alfalfa Hay	1st Cutting	36	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Hay	1st Cutting	18	N/A	N/A	N/A
Watermelons	Planted	47	11	10	17

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, April 22, 2012

Weather for Week Ending April 22, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 32 degrees at Boise City on Monday, April 16th, to 90 degrees at Tipton on Thursday, April 19th. Precipitation ranged from less than one hundredth of an inch in the North Central district to 0.38 of an inch in the Central district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 52 degrees at Kenton on Monday, April 16th, to 73 degrees at Grandfield and Burneyville on Thursday, April 19th.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to April 22, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	73	44	58	0.12	3.88	0.89	130
West Central	73	47	60	0.03	4.14	-0.17	96
Southwest	75	48	61	0.22	6.60	2.38	156
North Central	72	46	59	0.00	5.42	0.57	112
Central	72	47	60	0.38	7.92	2.09	136
South Central	73	48	61	0.16	8.17	1.86	130
Northeast	71	46	59	0.27	9.74	3.13	147
East Central	71	46	59	0.35	8.14	0.87	112
Southeast	72	44	59	0.31	9.83	2.06	126

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USDA-NASS
 Oklahoma Field Office
 PO Box 528804
 Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804
 73152-8804

